ध्यान में रखते हुए संपीड़ित प्राकृतिक गैस जैसे ऊर्जा के किन्हीं वैकल्पिक स्रोतों पर कार्य कर रहा है ; और

(ख) क्या इस संबंध में अनुसंधान और विकास स्कन्ध द्वारा कोई प्रगति की गई है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब्रह्म दत्त) : (क) और (ख) तेल एवं प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग ने आयातित किट की सहायता से गैसोलीन और डीज़ल से चलने वाले वाहनों को सम्पीड़ित प्राकृतिक गैस (सीएनजी) के प्रयोग से चलाये जाने के लिए उनमें फेर-बदल किया है । गुजरात राज्य पथ परिवहन निगम (जीएसआरटीसी) की कुछ बातों में फेर बदल करके उसे सीएनजी से चलने का भी उनका प्रस्ताव है । जीएसआरटीसी को तेल उद्योग विकास बोर्ड ने 28 लाख रुपये का अनुदान दिया है । ये केवल प्रायोगिक अध्ययन है। सीएनजीसी के वाणिज्यिक प्रयोग का कार्य अभी तक हाथ में नहीं लिया गया है ।

Payment of royalty for crude oil to Gujarat

2379. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of , PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have not yet paid royalty on crude oil to Gujarat Government though it is overdue;

if (b) when the royalty was last revised and when the next revision is due; and

jiPI (c) what are the reasons for not following the accepted. guidelines in this regard?

T HE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The Central Government does not pay royalty on crude oil. Royalty on the production of crude oil is payable by the oil producing companies concerned to the State or Central Government, as the case may be. The royalty due to the State Government of Gujarat at the current rate is being paid as due.

(b) and (c) According to the provisions of the Oil Fields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 the rate of royalty cannot be enhanced in less than three years. The last revision of royalty took place with effect from 1-4-1984.

Royalty on Natural Gas

2380. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any royalty on natural gas is being paid to Gujarat Government;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the criteria to determine such royalty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the provisions of the Petroleum & Natural Gas Rules, 1959, royalty on natural gas is paid at 10 percent of its value at the well-head.

Cheating by petrol pumps dealers

2381. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that majority ofthe petrol pump dea-